

## ABSTRACT

A wire belt includes a plurality of interconnected links that form a belt having a small mesh size, large percent open-area, and high strength, without the use of transverse rods or complex weaving patterns. Each of the links includes a hinge portion and hanger portion. The hinge portion includes a first and a second section. The first section is disposed at an angle relative to the hanger portion. The second section includes two loops sized and shaped to fit around at least a portion of the hanger portion of an adjacent link such that the two links are rotatably interconnected to form a continuous belt without the use of transverse rods or complex weaving patterns. The second section may have a "U" or "V" shape, and may include an elongated section such that the hinge portion extends beyond a transverse axis of the hanger portion.